



Saint Thomas the Apostle Church  
203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407

# THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ITS MISSION ST. TERESA OF AVILA



Saint Teresa of Avila Church  
9 Third Avenue  
Union City, PA 16438

## March 2, 2025



**One Faith  
One Family**

**Help support our  
parish through the  
2025  
Catholic Services  
Appeal!**

**Every dollar raised  
over our CSA goal  
stays in our parish.**



Diocese of Erie  
**2025 Catholic  
Services Appeal**

Commitment Weekend for the 2025 Catholic Services Appeal  
March 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup>

The CSA is an opportunity for Catholics throughout our diocese to unite in carrying out the work of the Gospel. The CSA reminds us that we are all part of the same Catholic family and that the work of the diocese is the work of the Church. The Church serves each of us and our support is essential in continuing God's work in our area. Every CSA donation also brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish projects.

Thank you for your generosity to this year's Catholic Services Appeal.

### NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

St. Thomas the Apostle     St. Teresa of Avila

Please drop this information into Offertory Basket or mail to Parish Office.

**Rev. Thomas J. Whitman**  
*Pastor*

**Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik**  
*Deacon*  
rkondrlik@eriercd.org

**Rev. Mr. William Saborsky**  
*Deacon—Retired*

**Melissa Silka**  
*Business Manager and  
Director of Faith Formation*  
business@stparish.org

**Susan Johnston**  
*Secretary*  
secretary@stparish.org

**Carol Huffman**  
*Bookkeeper*  
finance@stparish.org

**Rhonda Pierce**  
*Coordinator of St. Thomas &  
St. Elizabeth Cemeteries*  
cemetery@stparish.org

**Chris Slocum**  
*Coordinator of St. Teresa Cemetery*  
814-462-6375

**Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish**  
[www.stthomastheapostle.church](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

**Saint Teresa of Avila Church**  
[www.st-teresa-unioncity.org](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity.org)

**Parish Office**  
203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407  
814-663-3041

**Parish Office Hours**  
Monday: 12:30pm—3:30pm  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30am—3:30pm  
Thursday: 8:30am—12:00pm (noon)  
Friday: Closed

Notes from the Pastor

**FISH DINNERS:** We are gearing up for Fish Dinners at both Churches and that means we could always use your help.

- Desserts: A huge part of the success of our dinners is that people get homemade desserts. We are asking the great bakers in our Churches to start thinking about and getting ready for making desserts for this year's Fish Dinners. At **St. Teresa** desserts can be dropped off on Thursday from 4 to 7pm, or Friday anytime after Noon. At **St. Thomas** desserts can be dropped off Thursday from 12 to 3pm or Friday anytime after Noon.

- We are always in need of help serving dinners each night. This is a great way for young people to be involved, but is not limited to them, anyone can help.

- Posters for the Dinners are in the back of Church at St. Teresa. If you can help by placing a poster at your place of business or some other spot, please take one or more.

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL (CSA):** Today is commitment Sunday for the 2025 Catholic Services Appeal *One Faith, One Family*. Every registered family should have received a pledge envelope, a flyer and a personal invitation in the mail. The CSA is an opportunity for Catholics throughout the diocese to unite in carrying out the work of the Gospel. The CSA reminds us that we are all part of the same Catholic family and that the work of the diocese is the work of the Church.

The Church serves each of us and our support is essential in continuing God's work in our area. Every CSA donation also brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish projects of sealing or paving of parking lots. No gift is too small, but please give as generously as you can.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** As Lent is rapidly approaching, here are some dates to keep in mind.

- **Ash Wednesday** is March 5. We will have Masses at St. Thomas at 8:00am and at St. Teresa at 7:00pm with ashes being distributed. There will also be a Liturgy of the Word service with the distribution of ashes at BOTH churches at Noon.

- **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed on Thursdays of Lent at St. Teresa at 7:00pm and on Fridays of Lent at St. Thomas at 7:30pm.

- **Penance Service** will be at St. Thomas on Sunday, March 23, at 1:30pm. There will be several priests there to hear confessions as a part of the service.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING:** I have reflected so far on the ideas that as people made in the image and likeness of God, we are called to not only pursue our happiness on our own, but in relationship with one another. This gives us the basis of our Catholic Social teaching. We will look next at how this calls us to work for justice.

So, what is justice? Children from a very early age have a keen notion of what is fair and what is unfair. Justice may be defined as making sure everyone gets what is fair or giving others their due. We might simply look at the fact that 700,000 children are victims of abuse or neglect every year in the United States. Or we might see that 15% of US citizens live below the poverty level. We then would conclude that these are not fair. These are not just. And somehow, we have a responsibility to address these injustices. We might call that our responsibility to work for Social Justice, to work for the justice and fairness that affects all people.

This notion of Social Justice includes three different types of justice: commutative, distributive, and legal.

Commutative Justice is what we owe each other individually. This might include paying back our debts, or what we have borrowed; repairing the damage we have done to someone else's property;

*Continued* ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

**Sunday, March 2**

8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. †Bill Flynn by Valerie Downer  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Monday, March 3**

8:00a.m. †Ed Weaver, Sr. by Pat Kusiak  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, March 4**

8:00a.m. †Amoroso and Lutz Families by Family  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday / Lent begins**

8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

12:00p.m. Scripture service w/ distribution of ashes  
(at both St. Thomas and St. Teresa churches)

7:00p.m. †Steve & Dorothy Mongera by David & Debbie  
Gregor (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Thursday, March 6—Adoration**

8:00a.m. Communion service at St. Thomas Church

**Friday, March 7—First Friday**

8:00a.m. †Irene Tinko by Irene Weaver and family

8:00a.m. Communion service at St. Thomas Church

**Saturday, March 8**

4:30p.m. †Gilbert Rowland by Nancy Giblin  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Sunday, March 9**

8:00a.m. †Janet Mitchel by Rosemarie Ross  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

employees putting in a full day's work; and employers paying them a fair wage for their work. There are responsibilities we have to each other as family, friends, neighbors, and places where we work.

Distributive Justice is what society owes us. Our society provides many services to us: police and firefighters, roads repair and snow removal, protection through the armed services, public education, public transportation and housing. Often these services are paid for by the taxes we pay.

Legal Justice is what we owe society. This would include paying taxes, serving on a jury, or whatever legal documents and laws require of us.

Social Justice then is how we make sure that everyone is getting their due and doing their fair share. This has been part of the mission of the Church since the very beginning. It was formally addressed in 1891 by Pope Leo XIII in the first social encyclical, *Rerum Novarum* (On the Condition of Labor). Social Justice applies the message of Jesus Christ to the structures, systems, and laws of society in order to guarantee the rights of individuals.

Social Justice is the type of justice that ensures the practice of the other types of justice described above. It is when people work together and with organizations to identify the needs of society, and by the use of appropriate means, to meet these needs locally, regionally, nationally, and even globally.

— Fr. Tom



## St. Thomas News

# St. Thomas Lenten FISH DINNERS

Ash Wednesday, March 5  
Fridays, March 14, 28  
& April 11

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

St. Elizabeth Parish Center  
33 W. Pleasant St., Corry



Beer Battered or Crumb-Topped Baked  
Alaskan Cod, Baked Potato or  
Fresh Cut Fries or Mac & Cheese,  
Coleslaw or Applesauce, Italian Bread,  
Dessert & Beverage

Kids Meal: Fish Sticks or Beer Battered  
Fish, choice of sides, dessert & beverage

Adults - \$15 Child (6-12) - \$7  
Dine-in, Takeout or Delivery  
For Delivery Call 664-9187

*Food, Fellowship & Basket Raffles!!*

### St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society

Members of the Altar Rosary will next meet on Wednesday, March 19 at 6:00pm in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. All members are encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there!



### Donations of Dessert & Beer Needed

Fish Dinners are here! (See ad above). It truly takes a team effort to make our dinners successful. We are seeking donations of desserts (**NO cream pies**—due to regulations) and Yuengling beer (3 cases—for the batter, not the cooks!) **Also looking for people to help at the dinners.** Together we can make this a financially and spiritually beneficial event, and it will be a wonderful chance to come together as a parish family to serve God, our parish and our community. Dessert donations can be dropped off on Thursdays from 12:00pm—3:00pm or the day of the dinners beginning at 12:00pm. Questions—please contact Sue Vinca (814-964-0290) or Judy Green (814-964-1646). Thank you.

## PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

### Choir Rehearsals at St. Thomas

We will be starting Choir Rehearsals for Lent and Easter on **Monday, March 10 from 6:00pm—7:30pm.** Rehearsals will be weekly on Monday evenings from March 10 through April 14. We had a very dedicated small group at Christmas and we welcome more voices to join the choir which helps to enhance our liturgies, especially for the Lent and Easter season. Please consider join us—thank you. Any questions, please ask Joan Allen or Gary Johnston. We hope to see you at practice.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of March 2<sup>nd</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and for the health and strengthening of Pope Francis by Sue and Tim Vinca.

### This Week's Events at St. Thomas

#### Sunday, March 2

8:00am Mass at St. Thomas / CSA Commitment day  
9:00am Rel. Ed. Classes at the former school building

#### Tuesday, March 4

12:00pm Parish Center open to receive desserts until 3pm

#### Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday / Lent begins

8:00am Mass with distribution of ashes at St. Thomas Church  
12:00pm Scripture Service with distribution of ashes at the church  
4:30pm Fish Dinner at St. Elizabeth Parish Center until 6:30pm

#### Thursday, March 6

24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration (8:00am through Friday at 8:00am)

#### Friday, March 7

8:00am Communion service at St. Thomas Church  
7:30pm Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas Church

#### Saturday, March 8

9:00am The Rosary prayed publicly at St. Thomas Church  
3:30pm Confessions at St. Thomas Church until 4pm  
4:30pm Mass of anticipation at St. Thomas Church

### Family Perspective

Today, Jesus reminds us: 'Why do you notice the speck in your brother's eye but fail to see the log in your own eye?' It's often easier to focus on changing others rather than addressing our own flaws. However, this is futile, as the only person we can truly change is ourselves.

### **"Question of the Week" - Fest of the Presentation of the Lord**

**Question for Children:** Jesus teaches us to do good. What did you do this past week that was really good, kind or loving?

**Question for Youth:** Jesus says that our words reveal what is in our hearts. How do your words and actions reveal what is truly in your heart?

**Question for Adults:** We humans are vulnerable to sin. But we see the sins of others more easily than we recognize our own sins. Why does Jesus warn us not to judge others?

### **Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92)**



**PRAYER LINE... call:** Gerrie (814-665-6944),  
Pam (814-664-7459), or Diane (814-882-6806).  
*Since prayer is an important ministry of trust,  
know that all requests are kept confidential.*



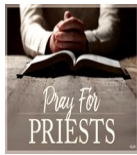
Daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 9 at 2:00am. Clocks 'spring forward' by one hour. Don't forget to change your clock on Saturday night, March 8.

# St. Teresa News

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a *concept* rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth. ©LPI



Rev. William Barron, Rev. David Perry, Rev. Thomas Trocchio, Rev. Leo Gallina, Rev. Luke Dagher, Rev. Jerome Simmons, Very Rev. Scott Jabo, VF, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

**This Week's Events at St. Teresa**

- Wednesday, March 5—Ash Wednesday / Lent begins
  - 12:00pm Scripture Service with distribution of the ashes at church
  - 7:00pm Mass with distribution of ashes at St. Teresa Church
- Thursday, March 6
  - 4:00pm Parish Center open to accept desserts until 7pm
  - 7:00pm Stations of the Cross at St. Teresa Church
- Friday, March 1
  - 8:00am Mass with Eucharistic Adoration until 12:00pm
  - 12:00pm Parish Center open to accept desserts
  - 4:30pm Fish Dinner at the parish center until 7:00pm

**St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society—Meeting Reminder**

Members of the Rosary Altar Society are reminded of their meeting on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30pm at St. Teresa Parish Center. We hope you plan to attend. Thank you.

**LENTEN MISSION**

Great for the whole family!



Bringing Scripture to Life, with Drama and Humor

March 10, 11, 12, 2025  
**St. Patrick Church**  
 130 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA, 16507  
 Free Will offering

Luke: Stories on the Road



Monday, 3/10  
7pm

Sermon on the Mount



Tuesday, 3/11  
7pm

Hollywood vs. Faith



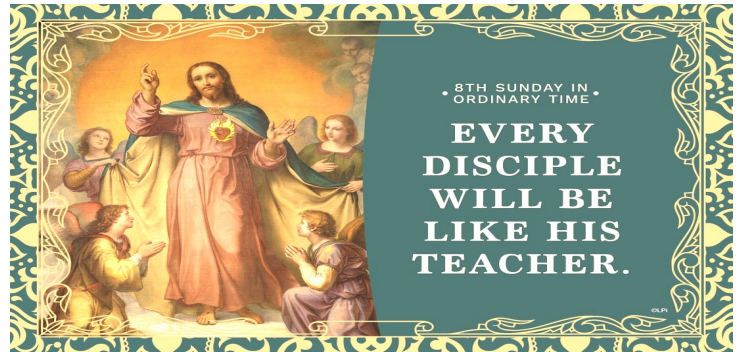
Wednesday, 3/12  
7pm

EMMY-NOMINATED FRANK RUNYON has starred in over 1,000 TV shows in the last 30 years... opposite Meg Ryan on *AS THE WORLD TURNS*, on *SANTA BARBARA*, *FALCON CREST*, *GENERAL HOSPITAL*, *LA LAW* and *MELROSE PLACE*. Frank is Catholic, an honors graduate of Seminary and Princeton University.

[www.frankrunyon.com](http://www.frankrunyon.com)

**Readings for the week of March 2, 2025**

- Sun. Sirach 27:4-7 ♦ Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a) ♦ 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 ♦ Luke 6:39-45
- Mon.: Sirach 17:20-24 ♦ Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 ♦ Mark 10:17-27
- Tues.: Sirach 35:1-12 ♦ Psalm 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23 ♦ Mark 10:28-31
- Wed.: Joel 2:12-18 ♦ Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 ♦ 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2 ♦ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thur.: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 ♦ Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 ♦ Luke 9:22-25
- Fri.: Isaiah 58:1-9a ♦ Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 ♦ Matthew 9:14-15
- Sat.: Isaiah 58:9b-14 ♦ Psalm 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 ♦ Luke 5:27-32
- Next Sun.: Deuteronomy 26:4-10 ♦ Psalm 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (see 5b) ♦ Romans 10:8-13 ♦ Luke 4:1-13



**Calling All Bakers!**

We are in need of your delicious baked goods for St. Teresa's Lenten Fish Dinners. Items can be dropped off at the Parish Center on Thursdays from 4:00pm—7:00pm and on Fridays starting at noon. Please use the KITCHEN door, all other doors will be locked up until dinner time on Fridays. Thank you!!



# St. Teresa

## --LENTEN FISH FRY--

### Dine in or Take Out

March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

April 4th and 11th

4:30 to 7:00 P.M.

### St. Teresa Parish Center

Third Avenue • Union City, PA

### Baked or Fried Fish (Haddock)

Choice of Baked Potato, French Fries or Mac & Cheese, Homemade Coleslaw or Applesauce, Dinner Roll, Homemade Dessert and Beverage

**Price: Adults \$14.00**

Children Meal (12 and under) \$6.00

Mac & Cheese, French Fries and Applesauce.

\*Add \$2.00 for Fish Sticks



For Take-outs Call

**814 - 438 - 2000**






**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** January 25 & 26, 2025  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$7,169.63  
**Average Budgeted Offertory Income** ..... \$7,700.00  
**Offertory Shortfall**.....\$(-530.37)

*Thanks to everyone who regularly uses his/her envelopes.*

**Please write checks to St. Thomas Church.**  
***If checks are to go to our parish cemeteries—please make them to either St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, or St. Teresa Cemetery. Thank you.***


 **Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at [www.StThomastheApostle.Church](http://www.StThomastheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.**

*If you are not receiving offertory envelopes from our parish and wish to, please contact the parish office. Thank you!*

**LENT Begins with Ash Wednesday—March 5**  
 Please mark your calendars with the following service times for Ash Wednesday:

- 8:00am—MASS with distribution of ashes at St. Thomas, Corry
- 12:00pm—Scripture Service with Distribution of ashes at both St. Thomas & St. Teresa
- 7:00pm—MASS with distribution of ashes at St. Teresa, Union City

*All are invited to join us as we begin the Lenten journey.*



**POLITICAL ISSUES TO KEEP IN MIND IN THE COMING MONTH**

As a Church and a non-profit organization, we are not permitted to endorse a political party or candidate. That includes those who would use our facilities for a gathering or an event. We encourage people to register to vote and to exercise their right to vote. We can host voter registration events but only if both parties are represented and able to register. We can even hold polling places in our buildings. Political signs are not permitted on Church property as they constitute us supporting one candidate over another, even if that candidate is a parishioner.

Some examples of what can and cannot be done: It is not permissible to rent out a Catholic facility for a dinner for a political party or a candidate for office. Likewise, while it would be permissible to conduct a general voter-registration drive, it would not be permissible to conduct a Democratic or Republican voter-registration drive, since by their nature these would be partisan events.

The Church can host events that explain the Catholic position on issues according to the Catholic moral tradition and social teaching.


NO GROUP or ORGANIZATION has permission to distribute flyers or other voter education information on Church property. Church parking lots are private property and therefore it is inappropriate for groups or individuals to “leaflet” or distribute materials on cars parked in church parking lots. No one has permission to “leaflet” or distribute materials on cars parked in church parking lots.

The Church must walk a fine line between encouraging people to vote and be educated on issues but can never endorse a particular party or candidate. If a Church crosses this line, it could lose its tax exempt – nonprofit status.

We ask that there be **no solicitation** at the Fish Dinners or at Masses for political candidates.

**Religious Education News**

**2024-2025 Religious Education Program**  
 Our Religious Education Program combined this year. **Now that we are in the second half of the Religious Education year (January—May) — ALL Classes will meet at St. Thomas school building from 9:00am—10:30am on Sundays.**



**Calendar Reminders for Religious Education**  
 March 2—Classes for all students at St. Thomas (Youth Mass)  
 March 9—Classes for all students at St. Thomas (Lenten activity)  
 March 16—No Classes today  
 March 23—Classes for all students at St. Thomas with confessions  
 March 30—Classes for all students at St. Thomas


**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!  
 We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.



**A GOOD TREE DOES NOT BEAR ROTTEN FRUIT.**  
 LUKE 6:43  
 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK**  
*Have mercy, O Lord, and hear my prayer...*


Our parishes will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> (8:00am) through Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> (8:00am) at Saint Thomas Church.** It will also be held on **Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> (8:00am –12:00pm) at St. Teresa Church.** All are welcome any time to spend a prayerful, quiet moment with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.



All are welcome to journey the Way of the Cross at our parish this Lenten season (March 6—April 11). Stations are held on

- Thursdays—7:00pm at St. Teresa Church (Union City)
- Fridays—7:30pm at St. Thomas Church (Corry)

**Stations OF THE CROSS**



**Requests for Mass Intentions**

Contact the parish office at 814-663-3041 to schedule Mass intentions for loved ones. We will do our best to accommodate date requests. The stipend is **ONLY \$10 per Mass.** Please do not send extra money as it causes our books to be out of balance. Thank you. We suggest that you make a donation to the church with any ‘extra’ funds you wish to give towards Masses. You may also sponsor the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one at either of our churches for just \$10 for one week.

